

Amendments to the Specification:

1. Page 1, before first paragraph, but after the title, insert the following:

---CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a U.S. National Stage of International Application No. PCT/AT2005/000118, filed April 5, 2005, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of Austrian Patent Application No. A 625/2004, filed April 9, 2004.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention---;
2. Page 1, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

---2. Discussion of Background Information---;
3. Page 2, before the first full paragraph, insert the following:

---SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method for filling a container with gas including inserting an electrically conducting stretched material into the container before inserting gas into the container, and inserting gas into the container under compression.

In one embodiment, the stretched material is inserted with a volumetric content of 0.5 to 8.5 percent of the total volume of the container. In another embodiment, the stretched material is inserted with a volumetric content of 1.0 to 5.0 percent of the total volume of the container

In one embodiment, the stretched material is inserted into the container in the form of separated spherical or cylindrical forms. In yet another embodiment, the stretched material is arranged in the container ascending from a base of the container.

In one embodiment, the stretched material is uniformly distributed throughout the entire volume of the container.

In one embodiment, the gas includes a combustible gas. In another embodiment, the gas is injected into the container, and the container has a pressure of at least 200 bar.

In one embodiment, the container comprises a steel vessel.

In one embodiment, the stretched material is made of a light metal, such as for example, aluminum or an aluminum alloy. In another embodiment, the stretched material is made of plastic

In one embodiment, the stretched material is surface-treated to increase conductivity.

The present invention also provides a method of using an electrically conducting stretched material to compress a gas including contacting the electrically conducting stretched material with a gas in a container under a compressed atmosphere.

The present invention also provides a gas container for storing gases under pressures exceeding 50 bar including an electrically conducting stretched material.

In one embodiment, the electrically conducting stretched material in the gas container has a volumetric content of 0.5 to 8.5 percent of the total volume of the container.

In one embodiment, the stretched material is arranged in the area of an opening of the gas container.

In one embodiment, hollow space of the gas container is filled up with at least one electrically conducting filling body made of stretched material and a filling pipe having an outlet opening is provided for filling, where the filling pipe leads up to the geometric center of the gas container and a ground connection is connected in the area of an outlet opening.

In one embodiment, the filling pipe projecting into the hollow space contains several smaller outlet openings arranged evenly spaced from each other, in the areas of which respective ground connections are arranged.

In one embodiment, the electrically conducting filling body made of stretched material is arranged in the upper filling area, and wherein the electrically conductive filling body is embodied as a pouch hanging in a sack-like manner and is attached to the underside of the cover as partial filling.

In one embodiment, the electrically conducting filling body is arranged in an upper filling area, and wherein the electrically conductive filling body fills up a cross section of the container in a screen-like manner and corresponds to a height of 1/10 to 1/20 of the container height.

In one embodiment, at least one of the electrically conducting filling bodies are supported in a support ring with a supporting grid attached thereto and comprise replaceable packings.

In one embodiment, the electrically conducting filling body acts as a flame barrier and damps pressure peaks during the filling operation.

In one embodiment, the gas container is configured to store gases under pressures exceeding 200 bar.

In one embodiment, the stretched material is has a volumetric content of 1.0 to 5.0 percent of the total volume of the container.

4. Page 7, between lines 14 and 15, insert and center the following:

---BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS---

5. Page 7, before "Increasing the filling level", and between lines 21 and 22, insert and center the following:

---DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION---